

PROPOSED WORKS.—Advertisements have been issued for tenders, by 25th October, for completing a Wesleyan chapel and schools at Southampton; by 7th November, for the erection of buildings for public baths and wash-houses at Westminster; by 13th November, for the erection of a goods and corn warehouse at the Midland-Railway station, at Leeds; by 27th October, for the erection and completion of a new prison at Lewes; by 7th November, for boilers, pipes, and fittings for baths and wash-houses at Westminster; by 16th October, for 50 covered goods waggons, with folding doors, for the Great Northern Railway; by 16th, for turn-tables, traversing frames, switches and crossings, water cranes, and water piping for Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company at Liverpool; by 30th, for the execution of that portion of the East and West-India Docks and Birmingham Junction Railway lying between the Leam canal and Blackwell; by 13th, for building a store-house of corrugated iron (not galvanized) at Southampton harbour; by 24th, for continuing the boring at the Artesian Well, on Southampton Common, to a depth of 50 feet, or farther, below the bore-hole, which is 1,260 feet deep;—by 24th, for constructing a new deep pump and fixing same at Southampton Common, and for repairing and lengthening present pump, and altering steam-engines, &c.—by same date, for 500 yards of 5-inch cast-iron water-pipe, and 500 yards 3-inch ditto with branches, fire-plugs, &c.; and by 9th November, for the survey, maps, and plans of Carmarthen, with a system of sewerage for same.

St. Jude's, BATHOL.—A new district church is very nearly completed on Poyntz Pool, Bristol city, dedicated to St. Jude, under the direction of Mr. Gabriel, architect. It is in the Decorated style (Edward II.), and consists of a nave and chancel, tower at the west end, with reredos north of the chancel. The tower is of four stages, having a deeply-recessed doorway, above which is a 3-light window; the belfry is lofty, with a 2-light window on each side; it is surmounted by a parapet of wavy and quatrefoil tracery, having a pinnacle at each angle, with buttresses set diagonally. The turret staircase is entered by a door inside the tower. The nave has a south doorway. The whole of the windows (except the east and west) are of two lights, and each of different tracery. There is a priests' door in the south wall of the chancel. The nave has open benches: the font is situated near the south door, and is large enough for immersion: the pulpit, which is on the north of the chancel arch, is of stone, with good panelling: the upper part of the tower arch is open, with a door beneath: the chancel arch is crossed by a screen of oak: the roof of the nave is open, and of a good pitch. On each side of the chancel is a row of four stalls. Further eastward, to the south, are sedilia and piscina, with drain complete (?); and in the thickness of the north wall an *ambury* is formed. The roof of the chancel is vaulted with wood, and the bosses gilt. The floor is to be laid with encaustic tiles. The church is built of Hanham stone, with freestone dressings: and the roof is covered with stone slabs, peculiar to the churches of the middle ages. Interior length of nave, 65 feet; breadth, 29 feet: length of chancel, 25 feet; breadth, 24 feet. Taken as a whole, the church is a good specimen of revived English Pointed architecture.

SMOKEY CHIMNEYS.—“A smoky chimney and a scolding wife are two of the worst evils of domestic life,” says the old proverb; and to obviate the first evil ingenuity is ever rack-ling its brain. Hence, Regent-street and every part of the metropolis has its house-tops bristling with pipes and deformed by cowls in every conceivable and almost inconceivable variety. Now, I have built many chimneys in all possible situations, and have found one simple plan everywhere successful, the secret being only to construct the throat of the chimney, or that part of it just above the fire-place, so small that a man or a boy can barely pass through. And, immediately above this the chimney shaft should be enlarged to double its width, like a purse, to the extent of about 2 feet in height, and then diminish again to its usual proportions. No chimney that I ever constructed thus smoked. — W. MASON, Lieut.-Colonel.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTES SUGGESTED.—In Mr. Weld's “History of the Royal Society,” the author says:—“In a curious letter from Hartlib to Boyle, dated Amsterdam, May 16, 1649, and preserved in the archives of the Society, is the following memorandum:—“Faulhall is to be sett apart for publick uses, by which is meant making it a place of resort for artists, mechanicks, &c., and a depot for models and philosophical apparatus.” It is further proposed, that ‘experiments and trials of profitable inventions should be carried on,’ which, says the writer, ‘will be of great use to the Commonwealth.’ Hartlib adds, that the late king (Charles I.) ‘designed Faulhall for such an use.’ In another letter to Boyle, dated May, 1654, Hartlib says, ‘The Earl of Worcester is hying Faulhall from Mr. Trenchard, to bestow the use of that house upon Gaspar Calkhof and his son, as long as they shall live, for he intends to make it a College of Artisans. Yesterday,’ he adds, ‘I was invited by the famous Thomas Buehel to Lambert Marsh, to see part of that foundation.’”

ELECTRO-TELEGRAPHIC PROGRESS.—While the cost of a telegraphic line in England is 150*l.* a mile, in America and Prussia it is under 20*l.* a mile. The telegraph in Prussia consists of one wire, extending over 1,402 miles, under ground, and covered with gutta-percha. Like those in America, it is by Morse, and is said to be capable of transmitting 1,000 words an hour. There are upwards of 10,000 miles of telegraph line in America, all worked cheaply. In England there are only 2,000 miles in operation.—Complaints of delay and neglect, as well as high charge here, still prevail. It must be admitted, however, that some of these complaints are most actively taken up and published by parties who have an interest in the substitution of a competitive line which is on the tapis, but of the real merits of which we are not yet prepared to judge.

PUBLIC CEMETERIES.—Not many miles from London there are barren waste lands that at present yield not a fraction of good to us, but with a little energy and capital might be converted to uses that would be as profitable as any speculation. Cambridge-beath is well known, and none will venture to dispute what an unprofitable tract of land it is; and there is another which is as much so, near the Southampton Railway. It extends from Woking to Bishopstoke, and is upwards of 20 miles in extent, the centre of which is crossed by the railway and a canal. This spot is as well calculated for a great public cemetery as any that can be named. It is so close to the railway that it is very easy of access; and a quality of land that might be purchased at as small a cost as any, owing to the nature of the soil, nearly all being composed of sand and loam. It may be questioned whether such a soil is calculated for interment, as sand is apt to fall in from the sides of any pit. Six feet is deep enough for any grave, and coffin laid on coffin is all that is needed, which might as well be done in sand as clay or gravel: such an arrangement as this must eventually be made, either with reference to the abandonment of the uses of the water which is obtained from various sources near London, or the final removal of cemeteries round the suburbs. There must be percolations from any cemetery, and, placed as they are at present, namely, Highgate, Abney Park, Norwood, &c., there can be but little doubt that the water from the artesian wells will, by them, be eventually affected.—It is but half doing a thing to have a little cemetery here and there; why not have a good one at once, and once for all? Why have charnel-houses so near our homes, when other and better opportunities offer for their position elsewhere. Were all the little cemeteries now about us, with the addition of more land, made public grounds and parks, and each of these spots of grassy land connected the one with the other by avenues, planted with rows of trees, so as to form one large belt to connect the parks round the metropolis, it would be better calculated for our health and happiness. The present parks are insufficient, and were London to take a walk some fine day, there would be scarcely standing room for its worthy citizens. London, with a little foresight and care, might be made the grandest city in the world. P.

PROVINCIAL.—At Charlton, near Woolwich, the foundation-stone of a new church, to be called St. Thomas's, was laid on Thursday week.—Sandgate Church has been remodelled under the direction of Mr. Keeble, of Folkestone, architect, and will now accommodate upwards of 500 persons.—The Posty-pool town school-room has been enlarged and opened as a church. The original building, 60 feet by 30, intersects the room at right angles, opening the whole width into it, but separated by a curtain.—The foundation-stone of St. Margaret's Church, Prestwich, was laid by the Duchess of Cambridge, on Wednesday week. The Earl of Wilton gives the land and 500*l.* towards the building fund.—A large portion of the wall surrounding Heaton Norris gas-works fell in on Sunday week. It had bulged inwards from the weight of earth outside; and being neglected, some heavy rain completed the destructive process.—The foundation-stone of St. Thomas's Church, Leyland, Leedes, was laid on 29th ult. The chief expense will be defrayed by Mr. M. J. Rhodes, now of Dursley, Gloucestershire, but at one time of Leedes, and by 500*l.* from the Diocesan Church Building Society.—Plans of a new crescent, to be erected at Stobcross, near Glasgow, have been prepared by Mr. Kirkland, architect, on a principle intended to afford to the middle classes, and at moderate rents, all the conveniences and elegances of the first-class dwelling. The elevations are proposed to be houses of three stories, to be let in ‘flats,’ or floors, of five and seven rooms, consisting of dining and drawing-rooms, and from three to five sleeping-rooms, with the necessary offices and conveniences. The proposed buildings have been projected by a company of private gentlemen.

EDINBURGH.—The new Corn Market is rapidly approaching completion. It is floored with heavy timber, and forms the largest saloon in the city.—It is creditable to the fleshers of Edinburgh, says the local *Register*, that they have taken the initiative in urging the town council to the immediate erection of public slaughter-houses. The example is deserving of imitation by all the members of that calling throughout the country.—The provisions in the New Police Act relating to the improvement of drainage in the city, are now being put into vigorous operation by the inspector of streets and buildings, and it is satisfactory to know that the proprietors have generally evinced no reluctance to carry the provisions of the Act into effect.

GLASS MANUFACTURE.—A patent has been granted to Mr. H. Howard, Railway-place, Fenchurch-street, No. 1. A peculiar construction of furnace for melting and casting glass, in which the flame is made to encircle and impinge directly against the sides of the pots, effecting thereby uniformity of heat, and an improved quality of material. 2. A portable furnace for melting glass, with one or more working holes. 3. The adaptation of a sheet of platina to the crown of melting and refining furnaces, to prevent the droppings falling into the pots. 4. A peculiar form and construction of annealing furnace with flues in the centre near the bottom, and holes in the top for allowing the heat to escape, and admitting light when emptying it of its contents.

A CHEAP FILTER FOR WATER.—Having had occasion to offer a suggestion, with reference to the use of charcoal (and a friend suggests the preference to be given to that of peat) for stuffing coffin mattresses in lieu of saw-dust, filling up others in putrescent diseases, &c., I beg to remind the public that as the water in daily use in this metropolis is any thing but what it should be, thanks to an overbearing monopoly of destructiveness, which might have been lessened long ago, if the various parish boards would have sunk artesian wells,—a very simple means exists, by which any poor family may filter all the water required, viz., by using a large pan or tub as the tank, and filtering the water (by ascension) through a sponge stuffed into the hole in the bottom of flower-pots, using two pots, the lower one being half filled with charcoal, and loosely covered with thin flannel, the upper one placed in it so as to sink the flannel with it, and then secured by a string: nothing can be more simple or more easily cleaned.

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